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Message Text

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47
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-05 OPR-02

PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05

FBO-02 SCS-03 EB-07 IO-11 /105 W
---------- 077349
O R 131751Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3340
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMCONSUL DOUALA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, CASC, NI
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN COUP REPORTED FOILED

REF: LAGOS 1865 (NOTAL)

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1. NIGERIAN BROADCASTING COMPANY (NBC), WHICH RETURNED TO

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AIR ABOUT 1610 LOCAL WITH POPULAR MUSIC, ANNOUNCED ABOUT 1820 LOCAL
THAT "COUP ATTEMPT HAS BEEN CRUSHED", SITUATION IS NORMAL BUT
DUSK TO DAWN CURFEW WILL BE OBSERVED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TONIGHT.
BORDERS REMAIN CLOSED AND AIRPORTS CLOSED TO INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL MEETING. FURTHER
ANNOUNCEMENT LATER.

2. EARLIER KADUNA RADIO ANNOUNCED ABOUT 1745 LOCAL SIMPLY THAT
COUP ATTEMPT IN LAGOS WAS FOILED AND A HANDFULL OF MILITARY OFFICERS
ARE BEING ROUNDED UP.

3. DEFENSE ATTACHE HAS REPORT THAT MUHAMMED IS DEAD, BRITISH
HAD SAME REPORT LATE THIS AFTERNOON. OBSANJO AND DANJUMA REPORTED
ALIVE. AT THIS POINT THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE REGARDED
AS UNCONFIRMED..

4. FOLLOWING FIRING AROUND RADIO STATION ABOUT 1500 LOCAL
REPORTED REFTEL, LAGOS HAS REMAINED QUIET WITH TRAFFIC VERY LIGHT
BUT FEW SOLDIERS OR POLICE ON STREETS. POPULACE REMAINING HOME.
CURFEW LARGELY SELF-ENFORCED. CONSUL IBADAN REPORTS BY TELEPHONE
THAT IBADAN ALSO QUIET.

COMMENT: THERE LITTLE DOUBT THAT COUP ATTEMPT WAS FOILED AND
THAT MUHAMMED DEAD BUT WE PREFER AWAIT OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION.
SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING NOW IN SESSION PRESUMABLY TO PICK A
SUCCESSOR. OBASANJO OR DANJUMA, WHO REPORTEDLY LED COUNTER ATTACK
ON COUP GROUP, CONSIDERED LIKELY SUCCESSORS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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TAGS: PINS, CASC, NI, (ALGIRE, WAYNE W)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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